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To: Stephen Blau
Fax: 571-273-8300
From: Jeff Tuttle
Phone: 248-840-2909
Date: 1/12/06

Subject: Office Action per Application 10/043/592

10/811,052

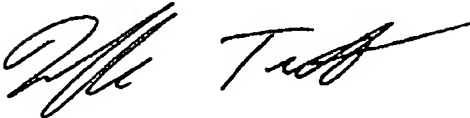
Details:

The attached revised claims are for application #10/811,052 per the attached office action. In the office action, you recommended revising the patent application to specify that the bridge feature be external to the normal body of the club and also that it being mounted only on the top. However, in reviewing the prior art cited, Thill and Saso, I felt that the primary difference between their patents and my own was that their patent used through holes or grooves to direct air flow. Since air flow is not a critical part of my patent, I have instead revised the claims to note that air flow would be blocked to ensure no aerodynamic changes. Please let me know if this is sufficient to make this patent distinct from the prior art.

Note, my original application did note that air flow was not a critical factor and the through hole could be blocked as follows: "If the inside of the hollow is filled with a material less structurally rigid than that of the bridge material, the force would still be transmitted through the more structurally rigid material, that of the bridge itself, in effect that type of structure would still be a hosel bridge as described herein. Similarly, if the ends of the hollow area are sealed with a material that is structurally rigid but is extremely thin, then the material on the ends would divert very little stress from the hosel bridge, and the design would also still be a hosel bridge as described herein."

I do have one other general patent process question for you, there is a patent application that I have found, 20050064952, that has similar art specified on the heel of the club instead of the top surface. It was filed on September 24, 2003 yet was not posted until March 24, 2005. Any idea why it was not posted until almost two years after filing? Since their filing date and my own are within six months of each other, it is not possible to tell with this paperwork who invented their design first, correct?

Kind Regards,
Jeff Tuttle



1/12/06

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/811,052		Applicant(s) TUTTLE, JEFFREY JOHN-CARL	
	Examiner Stephen L. Blau		Art Unit 3711	
	<p align="center">- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -</p> <p>Period for Reply</p> <p>A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). <p>Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</p> <p>Status</p> <p>1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>07 April 2005</u>.</p> <p>2a) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL. 2b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.</p> <p>3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i>, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.</p> <p>Disposition of Claims</p> <p>4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-9</u> is/are pending in the application.</p> <p>4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>3, 4 and 7-9</u> is/are withdrawn from consideration. <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.</p> <p>6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1, 2, 5 and 6</u> is/are rejected.</p> <p>7) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.</p> <p>8) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.</p> <p>Application Papers</p> <p>9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.</p> <p>10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) <input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b) <input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).</p> <p>11) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.</p> <p>Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119</p> <p>12) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a) <input type="checkbox"/> All b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some * c) <input type="checkbox"/> None of:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</p> <p>Attachment(s)</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</p> <p>2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</p> <p>3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.</p> <p>5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</p> <p>6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.</p> </div> </div>			

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 3-4 and 7-9 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made without traverse in the reply filed on 7 April 2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2 and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thill in view of Saso.

Thill discloses a wood type head having a hosel (12) extending generally upwardly from the heel end (Fig. 2), a hosel having at least one reinforcement bridge of material extending out from the hosel to the main body creating a roughly cylindrical space underneath the reinforcement bridge of no material and a hosel reinforcement bridge extending from a hosel to the upper surface of the head (See enclosure (1)).

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Thill lacks a hosel having a generally upwardly open hosel bore. Saso discloses a hosel having a generally upwardly open hosel bore (Figs. 2, 5). In view of the publication of Saso it would have been obvious to modify the wood type head of Thill to have a hosel having a generally upwardly open hosel bore in order to secure a shaft inside the bore when assembling a club.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. In order to overcome the prior art of record the examiner recommends adding the following at the end of claims 1 and 5 right before the punctuation mark of the period. (- wherein said club head comprises a wood-type club head in which the hosel reinforcement bridge extends from the hosel to the upper surface of the club head, wherein said bridge forms a protrusion from said upper surface with said space extending higher than said upper surface --). In addition, claims 2-4 and 6-9 would have to be canceled. If the examiner found no better art in an updated search than claims 1 and 5 would be allowable.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Jackson and Devendorf disclose cylindrical spaces beneath bridges.

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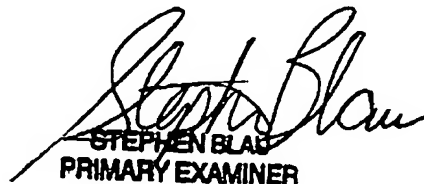
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen L. Blau whose telephone number is (571) 272-4406. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri 10:00 AM - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eugene Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4463. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Slb 15 October 2005


STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/811,052	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination TUTTLE, JEFFREY JOHN-CAR	
	Examiner Stephen L. Blau	Art Unit 3711	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-D382,613	08-1997	Devendorf, Rollie	D21/739
	B	US-5,695,409	12-1997	Jackson, Michael D.	473/305
	C	US-2001/0027139	10-2001	Saso, Mitsuhiro <i>concave grooves, air flow</i>	473/327
	D	US-6,824,474	11-2004	Thill, Harry E. <i>aerodynamic holes</i>	473/327
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(e).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
PTO-892 (Rev. 01-2001)

Notice of References Cited

Part of Paper No. 10152005